

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

	X
In re	:
	Chapter 11
SEARS HOLDINGS CORPORATION, et al.,	:
	Case No. 18-23538 (RDD)
	:
Debtors.¹	:
	(Jointly Administered)

**SIXTEENTH MONTHLY FEE STATEMENT OF M-III ADVISORY PARTNERS, LP
FOR COMPENSATION EARNED AND EXPENSES INCURRED
FOR PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2020**

1. In accordance with the *Order Authorizing Debtors to Retain M-III Advisory Partners, LP to Provide a Chief Restructuring Officer and Certain Additional Personnel for Debtors Nunc Pro Tunc To Commencement Date* (ECF No. 814) (the “**Retention Order2 M-III Advisory Partners, LP (“**M-III**”) hereby submits its sixteenth monthly report (the “**Monthly Report**”) on compensation earned and expenses incurred for the period commencing on January 1, 2020 through and including January 31, 2020 (the “**Reporting****

¹ The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification number, are as follows: Sears Holdings Corporation (0798); Kmart Holding Corporation (3116); Kmart Operations LLC (6546); Sears Operations LLC (4331); Sears, Roebuck and Co. (0680); ServiceLive Inc. (6774); SHC Licensed Business LLC (3718); A&E Factory Service, LLC (6695); A&E Home Delivery, LLC (0205); A&E Lawn & Garden, LLC (5028); A&E Signature Service, LLC (0204); FBA Holdings Inc. (6537); Innovole Solutions, Inc. (7180); Kmart Corporation (9500); MaxServ, Inc. (7626); Private Brands, Ltd. (4022); Sears Development Co. (6028); Sears Holdings Management Corporation (2148); Sears Home & Business Franchises, Inc. (6742); Sears Home Improvement Products, Inc. (8591); Sears Insurance Services, L.L.C. (7182); Sears Procurement Services, Inc. (2859); Sears Protection Company (1250); Sears Protection Company (PR) Inc. (4861); Sears Roebuck Acceptance Corp. (0535); SR – Rover de Puerto Rico, LLC (f/k/a Sears, Roebuck de Puerto Rico, Inc.) (3626); SYW Relay LLC (1870); Wally Labs LLC (None); SHC Promotions LLC (9626); Big Beaver of Florida Development, LLC (None); California Builder Appliances, Inc. (6327); Florida Builder Appliances, Inc. (9133); KBL Holding Inc. (1295); KLC, Inc. (0839); Kmart of Michigan, Inc. (1696); Kmart of Washington LLC (8898); Kmart Stores of Illinois LLC (8897); Kmart Stores of Texas LLC (8915); MyGofer LLC (5531); Rover Brands Business Unit, LLC (f/k/a Sears Brands Business Unit Corporation) (4658); Sears Holdings Publishing Company, LLC. (5554); Sears Protection Company (Florida), L.L.C. (4239); SHC Desert Springs, LLC (None); SOE, Inc. (9616); StarWest, LLC (5379); STI Merchandising, Inc. (0188); Troy Coolidge No. 13, LLC (None); BlueLight.com, Inc. (7034); Sears Brands, L.L.C. (4664); Sears Buying Services, Inc. (6533); Kmart.com LLC (9022); Sears Brands Management Corporation (5365); and SRe Holding Corporation (4816). The location of the Debtors’ corporate headquarters is 3333 Beverly Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60179.

² Capitalized terms not otherwise herein defined shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Retention Order.

Period"). During the Reporting Period, M-III incurred total fees and expenses of \$892,927.45, comprised of \$886,220.00 of fees and \$6,707.45 of expenses.

2. During the Reporting Period, M-III provided services central to the Debtors' restructuring process, including:

- a. **Chief Restructuring Officer:** Mohsin Y. Meghji in his role as Chief Restructuring Officer, continued to provide day-to-day oversight regarding issues including but not limited to: cash/liquidity management, the resolution of post-closing disputes with the Buyer, post-asset sale matters, and other Chapter 11 reporting requirements, as well as supervising all activity by the M-III team.
- b. **Asset Disposition:** After the closing, M-III prepared and updated analyses to reconcile cash proceeds received and credit card receipts between OldCo and the Buyer and prepared other analyses related to the sale. M-III also responded to numerous vendor inquiries related to non-payment due to the ongoing dispute between the Debtors' Estate and the Buyer as to which entity will pay the creditors.
- c. **Business Operations:** On an ongoing basis, M-III assisted the Debtors with issues related to operating as a debtor-in-possession operating in chapter 11.
- d. **Case Administration:** On an ongoing basis, M-III advised and assisted the Debtors with respect to internal and external communications planning and documentation. M-III also prepared for and attended Bankruptcy Court hearings. M-III also completed analysis and assisted the Debtors on various motions. M-III also prepared for and participated in strategic meetings with Debtors' counsel. M-III also assisted the Debtors on quarterly reporting related to Ordinary Course Professionals.
- e. **Claims Administration and Objections:** M-III advised and assisted the Debtors with reconciling the Administrative Expense Consent Program Non Opt-Out Group for administrative claimants that filed an Opt-In Ballot and were not part of the initial distribution, filed a Non Opt-Out Ballot or did not respond to the Ballot. This included reconciling the creditors amounts to the company's books and records and negotiating with creditors. M-III also responded to numerous inquiries from creditors regarding the Administrative Expense Consent Program Ballot and the claims reconciliation process. M-III also assisted the Debtors in reconciling the remaining import vendor claims related to the World Import issue and prepared omnibus objections to claims. M-III also continued to maintain reporting and tracking related to the Administrative Expense Consent Program Ballot and claims reconciliation process.
- f. **Corporate Governance and Board Matters:** On an ongoing basis, M-III prepared for and participated in meetings of the Restructuring Committee of the Board.

- g. Employment and Fee Applications: M-III prepared its monthly invoice in compliance with its retention order. M-III also coordinated with the company to submit professional fee invoices for payment and updated the professional fee reporting.
- h. Estate Tracker Reporting: M-III also prepared weekly reports to illustrate cash flows and liquidity as compared to the forecast including related methodologies, as well as cash management planning. M-III distributed the weekly variance reports to the Restructuring Committee and Creditors' Committee and addressed questions from these parties as they arose.
- i. Litigation: M-III continued to provide support for all open litigation items surrounding the APA disputes.
- j. Meetings and Communications with Creditors: On an ongoing basis, M-III prepared for and participated in meetings and teleconferences with the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors and their respective advisors.
- k. Meetings and Communications with Restructuring Committee: On an ongoing basis, M-III prepared and participated in meetings and teleconferences with the Debtors' Restructuring Committee.
- l. Preference Analysis: M-III worked with the preference firms to analyze the payments made that may be subject to preference actions and supported the preference project across the engaged firms including providing the Debtors resolution amount for numerous creditors.
- m. Real Estate – Property Management: On an ongoing basis, M-III assisted the Debtors in the management of its real estate assets.
- n. Real Estate – Property Taxes Payable by the Estate: On an ongoing basis, M-III assisted the Debtors in analyzing property tax bill presented for payment to determine what amount, if any, is owed by the Debtors or potentially other parties.
- o. Real Estate – Unencumbered Real Estate Sales & Analysis: On an ongoing basis, M-III assisted the Debtors in due diligence, analysis, reporting, marketing and monetization related to the unencumbered real estate. M-III worked closely with the Debtors to list, market and sell unencumbered assets to a variety of real estate investors. M-III also assisted the Debtors with the analysis of unencumbered properties with a view towards selling these assets in a timely manner for favorable prices.
- p. Reporting: On an ongoing basis, M-III assisted with matters related to the US Trustee, assisted the Debtors with accounting related items including but not limited to, aggregating monthly bank statements, reviewing monthly financial statements, Post-Confirmation Corporate Quarterly Operating Report, developing and updating the OldCo budget and other accounting related items.

3. **Exhibit A** attached hereto includes a list of the personnel that provided services to the Debtors during the Reporting Period, their respective titles, their respective billing rates, the aggregate hours spent by each individual, and the total compensation earned by each individual.

4. **Exhibit B** attached hereto is a breakdown of the reasonable expenses incurred by M-III during the Reporting Period.

Dated: March 12, 2020
New York, New York

By: /s/ Mohsin Y. Meghji
Mohsin Y. Meghji
Managing Member
M-III Advisory Partners, LP
130 West 42nd St.,
17th Floor
New York, NY 10036

Exhibit A

Case No.: 18-23538 (RDD)

Case Name: Sears Holdings Corporation

M-III Advisory Partners, LP

January 1, 2020, Through January 31, 2020

Summary of Compensation Sought for the Reporting Period

TOTAL HOURS	TOTAL FEES (a)	TOTAL EXPENSES (b)	TOTAL COMPENSATION	MONTHLY COMPENSATION FEES (100%)	MONTHLY EXPENSES (100%)	TOTAL MONTHLY COMPENSATION
1,585.7	\$886,220.00	\$6,707.45	\$892,927.45	\$886,220.00	\$6,707.45	\$892,927.45

Note(s):

(a) Total fees of \$886,220.00 includes \$750,000.00 for hours billed as a fixed fee and \$136,220.00 for professionals billed on an hourly basis.

(b) Total expenses are net of voluntary reductions of \$36.02, as set forth in Exhibit B below.

Case No.: 18-23538 (RDD)

Case Name: Sears Holdings Corporation

M-III Advisory Partners, LP

January 1, 2020, Through January 31, 2020

Summary of Hours Billed by Professional Fixed Fee

Employee Name	Initial	Title	Total Hours	Total
Meghji, Mohsin	MM	Managing Partner	18.4	-
Gallagher, William	WG	Managing Director	94.6	-
Griffith, Brian	BG	Managing Director	131.3	-
Murphy, William	WM	Senior Director	165.5	-
Korycki, Mary	MK	Director	182.3	-
Kim, Tyler	TK	Associate	269.6	-
Batista, Isabella	IB	Analyst	96.7	-
Casamassima, Christopher	CC	Analyst	134.6	-
Kopsky, Colin	CK	Analyst	194.4	-
Total (a)			1,287.4	\$750,000.00

Note:

- (a) Per Debtors' Application for entry of an order Authorizing the Debtors to retain M-III Advisory Partners, LP to provide a Chief Restructuring Officer and certain additional personnel for Debtors Nunc Pro Tunc to commencement date; paragraph 20(i) [ECF No. 328] Compensation for Services. In accordance with the terms of the Engagement Letter, M-III shall be entitled to non-refundable professional fees at a flat rate of (i) during such time as the Core Team is comprised of the CRO plus ten (10) additional professionals, \$900,000 per month and (ii) during such time as the Core Team is comprised of the CRO plus eight (8) additional professionals, \$750,000 per month. If additional staffing is required, additional professionals will be billed at a rate which is \$50 less than M-III's standard hourly rates. [ECF No. 328]

Case No.: 18-23538 (RDD)

Case Name: Sears Holdings Corporation

M-III Advisory Partners, LP

January 1, 2020, Through January 31, 2020

Summary of Hours Billed by Professional

Employee Name	Initial	Title	Total Hours	Rate (a)	Total
Good, Chris	CG	Director	1.5	\$725	\$1,087.50
Acevedo, Enrique	EA	Vice President	62.1	\$600	37,260.00
Zatzkin, Noah	NZ	Vice President	77.0	\$600	46,200.00
Weber, Nicholas	NW	Senior Associate	2.4	\$500	1,200.00
Crump, Myles	MC	Analyst	15.1	\$325	4,907.50
Navor, Glenn	GN	Analyst	65.1	\$325	21,157.50
Ramnani, Ravi	RR	Analyst	26.1	\$325	8,482.50
Urena, Amanda	AU	Analyst	17.0	\$325	5,525.00
Wong, Elaine	EW	Analyst	32.0	\$325	10,400.00
Total			298.3		\$136,220.00

Note(s):

- (a) Per Debtors' Application for entry of an order Authorizing the Debtors to retain M-III Advisory Partners, LP to provide a Chief Restructuring Officers and certain additional personnel for Debtors Nunc Pro Tunc to commencement date; paragraph 20(i) [ECF No. 328] Compensation for Services. In accordance with the terms of the Engagement Letter, M-III shall be entitled to non-refundable professional fees at a flat rate of (i) during such time as the Core Team is comprised of the CRO plus ten (10) additional professionals, \$900,000 per month and (ii) during such time as the Core Team is comprised of the CRO plus eight (8) additional professionals, \$750,000 per month. If additional staffing is required, additional professionals will be billed at a rate which is \$50 less than M-III's standard hourly rates. [ECF No. 328]

Exhibit B

Case No.: 18-23538 (RDD)

**Case Name: Sears Holdings Corporation
M-III Advisory Partners, LP**

January 1, 2020, Through January 31, 2020

Summary of Necessary Expenses Incurred

Description	Total
Air Travel	\$2,630.20
Hotels	985.42
Meals (Local) (a)	291.07
Meals (Out of Town) (b)	135.00
Rental Car	296.65
Taxi/Car Service	281.72
Telephone/Internet/IT	2,123.41
Sub-Total Before Reductions	6,743.47
Voluntary Reductions	(36.02)
Total (c)	\$6,707.45

Note(s):

- (a) Meals (Local): Per person meal expenses have been capped at \$20 (dinner).
- (b) Meals (Out of Town): Per person meal expenses have been capped at \$55 (dinner).
- (c) Total amounts are based on M-III's expense reporting system as of the date of this Monthly Report and may not be reflective of all expenses incurred during the Reporting Period. As such, future monthly reports may include expenses incurred during the Reporting Period.